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Telecopier Number: (805) 447-1090

DATE: January 10, 2001

TO: Examiner Joseph Woitach
Patent and Trademarks

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COMMENTS:

Serial No: 08/974,186
Applicant: Boyle et al.
Date Filed: November 18, 1997
Docket No.: A-378D5C

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PATENT APPLICATIONIN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): Boyle et al.

Serial No.: 08/974,186

Group Art Unit No.: 1632

Filed: November 18, 1997

Examiner: Woitach, J.

For: OSTEOPROTEGERIN

Docket No.: A-378D5C

THIRD AMENDMENT AFTER FINAL REJECTIONXO Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231OKAY
XEROX
Sir:

e Please amend the application as follows.

In the claims:

1 49. (twice amended) A method of increasing levels of osteoprotegerin in a mammal comprising administering to [modifying] the mammal [with] a nucleic acid encoding osteoprotegerin, wherein the administration [modification of the mammal with the nucleic acid] results in an increase in the level of osteoprotegerin and wherein the increase in the level of osteoprotegerin in the mammal results in increased bone density.

2 51. The method of claim 49 wherein the mammal is a human.

3 52. (twice amended) The method of Claims 49 or 51 wherein the nucleic acid encodes osteoprotegerin comprising the amino acid sequence as shown in Figure 9B (SEQ ID NO: 5).

4 53. (twice amended) The method of Claims 49 or 51 wherein the nucleic acid encodes osteoprotegerin comprising a carboxy-terminal truncation of the amino acid sequence as shown in Figure 9B (SEQ ID NO: 5).

5 54. (twice amended) The method of Claims 49 or 51 wherein the nucleic acid encodes osteoprotegerin comprising a deletion of the amino acid sequence as shown in Figure 9B (SEQ ID NO: 5) wherein the deletion comprises removal of amino acids from the carboxy-terminus or from the amino-terminus [of the amino terminal leader sequence].

CERTIFICATE OF FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION

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